NOT FOR CIRCULATION

California GARDEN

November/December 2006 Volume 97 No. 6 $3.00

we're dreaming of a white rose . . .

Plus
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hummingbird care,
book reviews,
and more!

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Published by San Diego Floral Association for 97 years

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We welcome articles, photographs, drawings, and ideas from amateurs and professionals. Deadlines for the next issues are the 20th of January, March, May, July, September, and November. We do not pay for articles or artwork. We cannot guarantee the safe return of material. *California Garden* reserves the right to edit any and all submitted material. Submissions should preferably be an email attachment in Microsoft Word or saved to a CD. All opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors of *California Garden*. No endorsement of named products is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products that are not mentioned.

Send all editorial material and change of address to:
California Garden
San Diego Floral Association
1650 El Prado #105
San Diego, CA 92101-1622

California GARDEN

Library of Congress ISSN 0008-1116

Mail: 1650 El Prado #105
San Diego, CA 92101-1622
See us at Casa del Prado, Room 105, Balboa Park
Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
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Volume 97, Number 6
THE MAGAZINE FOR HANDS-ON GARDENERS AND FLORAL DESIGNERS
November/December 2006

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Copies of *California Garden* can be ordered by mail for $3.00 per copy plus $1.50 postage.

Single copies of the current issue of *California Garden* magazine can be purchased for a donation of $3.00 at the locations listed.

CALIFORNIA ARBORETUM FOUNDATION, 818-447-8207, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA 91006
MISSION HILLS NURSERY, 619-295-2808, 1525 Fort Stockton Dr., San Diego, CA 92103
SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION, 619-232-5762, Casa del Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101
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FLOWER SHOWS: Show chairman contact *California Garden* if you'd like the magazine sold at your show.

California Garden (ISSN 0008-1116) is published bimonthly for donations of $12.00 per year or $20.00 for two years (foreign delivery add $6.00 per year) by San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1622. © 2006 San Diego Floral Association. All rights reserved. Periodicals postage paid at San Diego, CA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *California Garden*, 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1622 or to membership@sdfloral.org.

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From the President

In a few short months, our celebration year will begin. Your centennial committee has been planning, making decisions, and finding contacts to organize a year of events to educate the community, as well as our own members, about the long history of our organization. I'd like to give you a preview of the plans at present so that you will be aware of the events and hopefully will plan to participate fully in them.

We have formed an Honorary Committee comprised of members of the community who serve the horticultural community or have been major contributors to our association. An event held in the Botanical Building in Balboa Park will give us the opportunity to inform the honorary members about our present plans and ask for any contacts and assistance they may wish to offer. Invitations will be mailed.

The March event at the Grant Hotel will officially begin our year's activities. In the Crystal Ballroom, we will hold a tea and award ceremony. The Palm Court, which was the site of the 1910 flower show Floral presented at the opening of the hotel, will be the stage for the centennial flower show. The chairs for the flower show are Loie Wilkins and Laura Crenshaw, who will be contacting designers to participate. The flower show will be held March 23 and 24 from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., and the Gala Tea will take place on March 24th from 12:00 noon until 3:30 p.m.

We plan a garden tour of historic gardens of the Mission Hills and Point Loma area in May. This is where many of the founding members lived and held Floral meetings in their gardens. Now we are searching for lovely old gardens and would appreciate any suggestions you may have.

Maureen Austin, creator of the Chirp organization, has been consulting with Parks and Recreation on a project to renew the existing Butterfly garden located in the Zoro Garden. Maureen will have a butterfly release for members and the public as part of a celebration of the completion of the project.

A fall plant sale and gardener's market idea is working its way through the committee process and would probably be held the last weekend in October.

In addition to the events, we will be educating our members to the history of Floral with interesting reprints from our past California Garden magazines.

Many additional reprints will be compiled in the Floral Memory Book, which will become part of our archives and will also be sold to members and the public.

Another effort to capture the history of our group is the oral history project, where longtime members are interviewed and the tapes transcribed. Their stories will then become part of the Memory Book. Martha Rosenberg, Barbara Jones, and Virginia Firth have been interviewed thus far. These tapes will be placed in the Historical Society archives. If you wish to be interviewed or know someone who has a history with Floral, please let me know. The Historical Society will provide a space for a temporary display in their museum in 2007. We have also been invited to have a major display at the County Fair next season. All of these opportunities will give us a chance to share our history with our members and the public. An important goal for 2007 is to attract new members and carry on the tradition of education and service that the early members achieved and trusted us to continue.

Kay Harry

MOVING? Please let us know.

Help us keep membership costs down by informing us of your new address promptly. Fill out this form and fax it to us at 619-232-5762 or mail it to:
SDFA, 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1622.

Changes of address can also be submitted by email to membership@sdfloral.org.

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SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Our Fall Plant Sale...

has a special flair!

Saturday, Nov. 4th

9:30am to 4:00pm

Bernardo Winery

13330 Paseo del Verano Norte, Rancho Bernardo

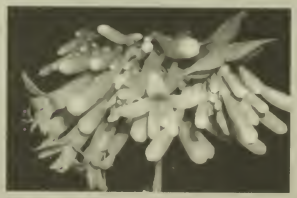
♦FREE PLANT SALE

♦FREE garden talks throughout the day

♦FREE container gardening demo

Locally grown plants from succulents to orchids and bromeliads to bamboo!

Plus: garden art, garden crafts, carnivorous snails, handmade pots, more!



FREE demonstration of container gardening techniques at 11:00 a.m. by landscape designer **Pamela Homfelt**

Information: www.sdhortsoc.org (760) 295-7089

San Diego Horticultural Society

Meetings 2nd Monday of every month, 6:30pm

Free Admission - Everyone Welcome!

Surfside Race Place, Del Mar Fairgrounds

Please join us - and bring your friends!

November 13: Fruit Trees in the Ornamental Landscape

Tom Del Hotal draws on three decades of hands-on experience to show a broad selection of un-demanding to exotic fruit trees that provide beauty, shade, textural interest and a tasty harvest in your backyard.

December 11: Bonsai

Phil Tacktill demonstrates how to create a Bonsai Saikei, using plant material that is readily-available, affordable, and that many people will have (such as cuttings). Also, our 12th Cookie Tasting!

Dig in! News, tips, advice, and products you can use.

We Get a Leg Up

What began with a flower-covered wagon rolling down a city street and ended up in the history books? If you guessed the Tournament of Roses Parade, you would be right. You would also be right if you said San Diego Floral Association's float "Gone Gardening," which took top honors in the inaugural Flower Power Parade held in Hillcrest on July 23. We are pleased that SDFA will forever be etched in history, and also on the perpetual glass vase trophy as winners of the first Flower Power Parade Best Float Award.

My floral career began at the 1990 Rose Parade, where I volunteered as one of the many Petal Pushers who worked on building the spectacular floats. I was in awe of the grandeur of these rolling works of art and the scope of what it takes to create one of the floats that we all have become accustomed to watching parade down Colorado Blvd. on New Year's Day. If you have never witnessed the Rose Parade in person or toured the buildings and tents where the floats are being constructed, you must make plans to do so—it is beyond belief.

photo by David Root

So how did our float develop from a simple garden wagon to an award-winning float, you ask? It takes imagination, a few creative people willing to work, and some beautiful flowers. I had picked up the plastic foot and leg from a pile of trash left by vendors at the San Diego County Fair and I thought it was a good place to start. I wondered how I could use these crazy legs, and my imagination was off and running!

With any good floral design, you need a strong focal point—and so the feet would become the focal point of our float. We created a stunning garden by using magnificent pink hydrangeas from John Sandy's garden and a variety of other garden blooms, including yellow callas, mums, blue larkspur, and Queen Anne's lace.

We used dried palm trunks and added bananas to them to give the float a tropical feeling. Since the rules required that 80 percent of the float be fresh flowers, I had Kay Harry and Karin Kratz create a skirt made of Algerian ivy leaves glued to burlap to hide the sides of the wagon. Then the crowning touch was the fishing pole made of river cane and the empty Jack Daniel's bottle tossed into the garden, which gave our creation that ever-important humor factor and crowd appeal.

Then it became very obvious that we would title the float "Gone Gardening," a takeoff on Gone Fishing, which is what this person did instead of pulling weeds in their garden. To add to the festivities, Carvil Veech, Suzanne Michel, Kay Harry, and I tossed beads as we passed in review, and you know what happens when the beads start to fly!

The parade was the brainchild of two of our members, Ann Garwood and Nancy Moores of Hillquest Guide, who thought it would be an exciting way to promote SDFA and our forthcoming centennial celebration year. Plans are to hold the parade again next July, and the trophy will be passed on to the next winner, which we hope will be SDFA.—David Root

The Apple of Our Eyes . . .

Having learned from *California Garden* since 1962, I look for meaty, accurate material in its pages. I read with shock a couple issues ago that we shouldn't grow apples in Southern California (see "The Good, the Bad, and the Pretty" in the May/June 2006 issue of *California Garden*). Tain't so. *Sunset Western Garden Book* tells us we now have at least nine apples that grow well here, making their owners pleased as punch.—Betty Newton

Have a tip you'd like to share with *California Garden* readers? Send it to editor@sdfloral.org.

It's a Great Day to Put Up a Bluebird Box!

My husband and I have been watching a pair of western bluebirds raise a family in a nestbox we put up near our kitchen window. Observing the wing waves and vocalizations of the male during courtship was great fun. And so was all the nest building by the female. Our "lady blue" is now incubating six eggs, while papa stands guard and feeds her. And we can't wait to see the hatchlings. But sadly, not many people in San Diego have bluebirds.

Where have all the bluebirds gone? The bluebird is native only to North America and was plentiful when the Pilgrims first arrived here. But bluebirds started disappearing when house sparrows, imported from Europe in 1851, began to multiply rapidly in America. By the early 1900s, these aggressive newcomers were overwhelming bluebirds in their competition for nesting cavities. And now, with the added loss of habitat from human development, the bluebirds need your help!

With the establishment of a network of nestbox trails across North America, the bluebirds are starting to make a recovery. And everyone who puts up a bluebird nestbox or two assists in the California Bluebird Recovery Program.

If you'd like to get started with bluebirds, you can find all the bluebird basics at Bluebirds of San Diego County, on the web at www.neighborhoodlink.com/org/sdbluebirds/.

You'll find information about nestboxes, site location, water and food, predators and pests, monitoring, nesting behavior, bluebird resources, abandoned bluebirds, the California Bluebird Recovery Program, and more.—Carol Killebrew

You're Invited to a Members Preview Tea

Members of San Diego Floral Association and exhibiting garden clubs and plant societies are invited to a complimentary tea to preview the displays in Room 101 prior to the event's opening at 5 p.m. to the general public. (This is also a great opportunity to avoid the parking crunch when the event opens.) The room will feature seven cozy rooms with holiday vignettes set in Mexico, Japan, Sweden, China, Ireland, Brazil, and Germany, floral displays prepared by the Flower Arranger's Guild, and free-standing trees decorated with flowers. Fresh protea flowers, gingerbread cookies, and gift items will be for sale. The tea is sponsored by the Flower Arranger's Guild.

Celebrating Holidays Around the World
2–4 p.m.
Friday, December 1, 2006
Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

But We Don't Look a Day Over 95 . . .

Coming up in 2007, the San Diego Floral Association will celebrate its 100th anniversary. It's going to be a big year for us, one we're very proud of, and we hope you'll be a part of the celebration. In fact, we hope you'll encourage your family and friends to join SDFA in this historic occasion and help make the year a true success.

Here are just a few of the things we're planning for the coming year:

Friday and Saturday, March 23rd and 24th, 2007
Flower Show in the Palm Court of the U.S. Grant Hotel, downtown San Diego.

Saturday, March 24, 2007
Gala Afternoon Tea and Awards Ceremony, Crystal Ballroom, U.S. Grant Hotel, downtown San Diego.

Late Spring/Early Summer, 2007
Butterfly release in the renovated Zoro Garden in Balboa Park

Publication of a Centennial Booklet

An Oral History Project

A garden tour of historic San Diego gardens (date to be announced).

San Diego Floral Association
SINCE 1907
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Now is the time

African Violets

Barbara Conrad

- To watch for grayish coloring in the center of violets as well as leaves that cup under. This might be a warning that you have an infestation of insects. Unusually small blooms are another warning signal. Use a magnifying glass, as all pests are not visible to the naked eye.
- To measure the width of your plants. Pots should be one-third the width of the plant. A smaller plant may need to be potted down and a larger plant may need to be potted up to the next size of container. Helen van Pelt's African Violet book describes it as a "tight shoe."
- To look for suckers on plants as typical violets should have only a single crown. The suckers may be removed and started in new pots as "bonus" plants. Suckers tend to take away nourishment from the main crown.
- To operate on violets with long necks. The plant will eventually curl over and droop to one side. Remove the lower leaves and cut the neck two inches below the bottom remaining leaves. Scrape the side lightly so that roots will form more easily. Allow the neck to "heal" for half an hour and plant. Cover with a plastic bag and keep in a dark place for a few days without any fertilizer as it rejuvenates before going into the sunlight.
- To water your plants with warm water to avoid shock.

Begonias

Doris Smith

Alfred D. Robinson Begonia Society

- To keep plants clear of spent blooms and dead leaves.
- To continue proper watering.
- To add soil or mulch to keep roots covered.
- To spray for insects, pests, and mildew.
- To feed lightly several times a month unless using fertilizer such as Osmocote.

Bonsai

San Diego Bonsai Club

- To reduce watering. Deciduous trees require just enough to keep them from drying out.
- To move plants into shade if a hot spell occurs. Avoid a second growth period during this time, as it will weaken the trees.
- To refrain from fertilizing or transplanting.
- To keep deciduous trees protected from sudden changes of temperature.
- To remove any old leaves, fruit, or seeds from deciduous trees.
- To prune back pines by cutting the candles about half-length.
- To graft conifers in December.

Bromeliads

Mary Siemers

Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park

- To cut down on watering throughout the cold months.
- To stop fertilizing outdoor plants.
- To continue fertilizing green house plants monthly.
- To provide overhead protection to keep plants from hail damage during the rainy season.
- To place potted plants further apart to give them plenty of air circulation.
- To protect plants two feet or more above ground level.

Cacti and Succulents

- To watch your plants. Most cacti and succulents have a dormancy period. Depending on the weather, many winter growers may start early growing.
- To fertilize the plants that are actively growing.
- To water only in the morning on a day that is going to be warm. By doing this, no standing water will be on plants in the evening.
- To protect tender plants from excessive cold and winter rains. Repair cracks and leaks in shelters before the rains arrive.
- To keep ants under control; they transport aphids and mealybugs.
- To remember that the growth of fungi and bacteria can be fostered when plants become too cold during the cold evenings.
- To start looking for winter-growing succulents to add as an extra dimension to your collection.
- To clean up your plants' growing area.

Camellias

- To feed monthly (September through January) with a 2-10-10 or 0-10-10 fertilizer to encourage bud development.
- To continue disbudding if larger but fewer blooms are desired.
- To pick up all old blooms to prevent petal blight.
- To encourage dark green leaves by feeding an iron supplement.
- To spray if necessary for mites (miticide) and worms.
- To keep a regular watering schedule. Never let a plant dry out. Maintain an even, moist, but not wet, condition.
- To prune selectively to ensure buds have room to open without interference.

Dahlias

- To withhold water and fertilizer to let the plants go dormant.
- To allow plants to dry. When brown about 12 inches from the ground, cut off the stalk.
- To leave tubers in the ground to harden off if there is good drainage. Otherwise, lift roots before the heavy rains.
- To wash clumps after digging. Let dry a few hours before storing. If dividing tubers, treat cut area with soil sulfur, store in vermiculite, sand, or other medium. Store out of the weather. Be sure tubers are tagged before storing.

Epiphyllums

San Diego Epiphyllum Society

- To withhold fertilizer, especially nitrogen. Allow the plants to become semi-dormant.
- To water sparingly, but do not allow plants to dry out completely.
- To protect plants from exposure to the elements. Frost, hail, and strong winds can cause irreversible damage. Overexposure to harsh winter sunlight can be as detrimental as hot summer sun.
- To tie or stake long branches so they will not break when winds and rain arrive.
- To check for snails and slugs; a few granules of bait at the base of the plant are often effective and leave no residue.
- To maintain good grooming and prune out nonproductive branches to conserve plant energy.

Ferns

Bob Halley
San Diego Fern Society

- To water gently but do not soak. Most ferns are not growing much now. Save rainwater for plants that don't get it naturally. It will leach out salts.
- To trim off dead fronds but not green ones.
- To fertilize very sparingly early in the period, then let plants rest till spring.
- To remove and remount *Platycerium* pups.
- To sow spores. It is probably too late to collect them.
- To keep looking for pests, especially snails and slugs, and treat as necessary. Giant White Flies are probably pretty quiet now.
- To protect tender plants from winter cold. Most of the ferns grown here will not like it under 40 degrees.

Fruit Trees and Vines

Vincent Lazaneo, Hort. Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension

- To prune deciduous trees and vines after their foliage has dropped. Wait until early spring to prune evergreens.
- To spray dormant deciduous trees and vines with horticultural oil to kill scale, insects, spider mites, and other over-wintering pests.
- To spray peach and nectarine trees with a fungicide such as lime sulfur (calcium polysulfide) to control leaf curl.
- To order low chill, bare root trees and vines to plant in December or January.
- To provide frost protection for young avocado, citrus, and other subtropical fruit trees.
- To learn more at http://fruitsandnuts.ucdavis.edu.

Fuchsias

- To allow plants to rest; reduce or stop fertilizing.
- To do heavy pruning in mild areas or in a greenhouse; you can make a cutting if a good tip is available.
- To clean up. Remove all dead leaves, blossoms, and debris from posts and baskets and around plants in the ground.
- To watch for insects, molds, and fungi in warmer areas.
- To mulch plants left outside in areas where there is danger of frost; move baskets under cover for protection.

Now is the time

Herbs
John Noble

- To plan a winter/spring herb garden.
- To plant perennial herbs: rosemary, lavender, thyme, rue.
- To plant annual herbs in your flower or vegetable beds: borage, calendula, cilantro, chickweed, chives, nasturtium.
- To prune back and shape native sages, rosemary, lavender.
- To cut mint plants down to the ground and add soil amendment.
- To harvest lemongrass, chaste berries, gingko leaves, fennel seed.
- To cook gourmet meals for the holidays. Try the rich flavors of coriander, marjoram, tarragon, and saffron.

Iris
San Diego/Imperial Counties Iris Society

- To clean beds of dead leaves and weeds, as aphids winter-over in debris-filled areas.
- To spray for aphids or give a light feeding of a systemic to control all sucking plant pests.
- To make a final planting of bearded types, spurias, Louisianas, and Siberians.
- To plant bulbous-type iris—Dutch, English, and Spanish—for spring bloom.
- To move and replant Pacific Coast natives in late December, when the little white roots are showing. Water well until they are established.

Orchids
Charles Fouquette

- To feed a dilute solution (25%) of 30-20-20 fertilizer in each regular watering to *Oncidium*, *Brassidium*, and *Miltonia* hybrids planted in bark. If grown in an inorganic medium, then use 18-18-18. Rates given are guidelines and may be adjusted as needed for various mineral supplements.
- To feed *Cymbidiums* a 30-20-20 fertilizer (adjust as above).
- To protect *Cymbidium* buds and flowers from hail, rain, or sun damage. Once a spike starts, do not rotate plants.
- To feed *Cattleyas* a 25% solution of 18-18-18 regularly or full-strength every 3–4 waterings.
- To repot *Cattleya* if in active new growth and growing out of the pot. Otherwise, wait until a warmer time. Some yellow hybrids require repotting when dormant.
- To let deciduous *Dendrobiums* go dormant. Stop feeding when leaves drop. Start feeding and watering in spring with 18-18-18 when buds start to swell. Flower buds should develop during last part of dormancy.
- To clean up old leaves, flowers, and other trash in growing areas. Remove and store shade cloth. Clean and check all parts of swamp coolers, humidifiers, heaters, and fans.

Native Plants
John Noble

- To prep the native landscape for winter and spring growth.
- To prune out faded dead seed heads of most natives, such as the sages and the buckwheats. Don't prune Toyon, as it shows off in November and December.
- To dig holes for new plantings. Generally, little or no soil amendments should be added to the hole. Be sure to water holes several times before planting. The next few months are the best for establishing native plants.
- To sow wildflower seeds, such as California poppy, Chinese houses, mountain garland, owl's clover, and farewell to spring.
- To wait for rain. It is wonderfully ideal to plant or sow hours or minutes before a big storm is coming, or between storms.
- To let nature do its thing.

Pelargoniums (Geraniums)

- To water thoroughly when plants become somewhat dry. Watering will not need to be done as often as in the warmer seasons. Allow the excess water to drain away. Keep the foliage as dry as possible.
- To continue feeding as needed. Do not allow plants to show prolonged signs of nutritional deficiencies. Use a balanced fertilizer that can be dissolved in water. Soilless mixes need fertilizer containing micronutrients.
- To continue a pest control and disease prevention program, using all products according to the manufacturers' directions.
- To prune any plants that have not been cut back. At least one green leaf should remain on every stem of regals, scenteds, and

similar types. Lanky plants that were pruned in the fall can be cut again to produce compact plants.

- To pinch the rest of the plants that were pruned in the fall.
- To make cuttings from the prunings. Shelter cuttings from extreme temperatures. They will root faster in a warm location.
- To give plants temporary shelter if the temperature approaches freezing.
- To rotate plants on a regular basis in order to keep them well-shaped.

Plumeria

Frank Zotter
Southern California Plumeria Society

- To prepare plants for winter. Dormancy is beginning.
- To give a last good feeding, especially a high-phosphorous fertilizer, i.e., 10-60-10.
- To remove dead flowers and leaves that may be harboring disease.
- To protect from cold and wet environments by placing plants next to a building or under a covered patio. Cover soil on large pots with as much mulch as possible. In areas of possible frost—plants must be put in a garage or greenhouse. Once leaves are lost (dormancy), hold back all water and fertilizer.

Roses

- To renovate your rose garden by deep-digging the area around individual bushes and incorporating organic amendments prior to fall rains. Remove roots of trees and shrubs that have been robbing your plants of water and nutrients.
- To prepare a list of replacement and/or new varieties you wish to purchase from lists of incoming bare-root plants available at your local nurseries.
- To enjoy fall blooms that are frequently outstanding depending on weather conditions.
- To reduce the amount of watering, but do not allow bushes to become too dry if fall rains do not occur.
- To remove bushes no longer producing. Prepare new planting holes by adding amendments and superphosphate to existing soil to give bare-root roses a good growing medium.
- To prune floribundas in late December but delay pruning hybrid teas until buds begin to swell in January or early February. Consult rosarians in your locale for the best date.
- To clean up the entire rose bed and use a dormant spray once before pruning and again after pruning before buds leaf out.
- To prepare for pruning by checking your equipment. Proper equipment, clean and sharp, will make the job easier. Don't forget the gloves and knee pads.

Vegetables

Vincent Lazaneo, Hort. Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension

- To remove and compost warm-season vegetables to prevent pests and diseases from over-wintering on them.
- To continue planting cool-season vegetables that will not be subject to frost injury.
- To plant seeds of short-day onions (such as Grano, Granex, or Crystal Wax) and garlic cloves in November for bulbs next summer.
- To plant dormant crowns of artichoke, asparagus, and rhubarb.
- To avoid crown rot of rhubarb, plant crowns in containers filled with porous potting soil, and transplant into a garden where drainage is good after several leaves have developed.
- To learn more about vegetable gardening at http://vric.ucdavis.edu.

Vegetables, Annuals

UC Cooperative Extension Publications

- To put in transplants, in frost-free areas, of California natives, cineraria, columbine, fairy primrose (*Primula malacoides*), garden stock (*Matthiola incana*), hollyhock, Iceland poppy, ornamental kale, pansy, pink sand verbena, pot marigold (*Calendula*), snapdragon, viola, broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower.
- To put in seeds of California natives, candytuft, Chinese forget-me-not (*Cyanoglossum amabile*), forget-me-not (*Myosotis sylvatica*), lupine, sweet alyssum (*Lobularia maritima*), spring flowering sweet pea, Virginia stock (*Malcolmia maritima*), beets, carrots, chard, collards, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, onion (green and dry), parsley, parsnips, peas (sugar-snap), radish, spinach, and turnips.

Water Gardens

- To clean up. At this time, most of the plants in the pond are beginning to lose leaves, set seeds, and generally decline. As this happens, dead foliage and flowers should be kept out of the water so that they do not provide food for algae.
- To free Louisiana irises from the summer overgrowth of other plants so that they can put on their new leaves.
- To be alert for moth larvae eating your bog plants and lilies.
- To watch for and encourage hawthorns that are beginning to reappear.

Photos by Dorothy Carroll

Going Around in Circles

BY DOROTHY CARROLL

Enjoy a living succulent wreath for years to come.

With the Holiday season coming, have you thought of giving a wreath as a gift? Instead of giving an artificial, balsam, or dried material wreath, why not give a succulent wreath that can live, grow, and be enjoyed for years?

During 2000 and 2001, I needed to keep busy and productive while I recovered from two operations and treatments. Poking through a bookstore, I found *The Living Wreath* by Teddy Colbert and touted by Martha Stewart.

Until then, I was pretty sure I'd seen most ways you could "garden." I'd been a National Council Flower Show Judge for 25 years, president of Buffalo Grove Garden Club in Illinois and The Village Garden Club of La Jolla, and for 12 years I had written the Friday afternoon gardening column "Ask Dorothy" for *The San Diego Union Tribune*. But even an old dog can learn a new trick, so I spent weeks experimenting. Eventually, I became proficient enough that I was making and selling succulent wreaths. I was invited to participate at the Del Mar Fair in 2001 and did a demonstration on their "stage" to share what I had learned.

Succulents are members of the cactus family. They store water in their leaves, they can live indoors or outdoors, they are not fussy, pampered plants that need constant attention, and they lend themselves nicely to the occasional neglect we busy people find in our lives. Succulents are not dull. They come in many sizes, shapes, and textures and add interest and variety. Each succulent wreath is different.

How delightful to know that even in this high-tech day and age, no two succulent wreaths are ever identical.

Creating a living wreath is rewarding, but also very time-consuming. I settled on basic green metal wreath frames in several sizes that I purchased from San Diego Floral Supplies, Inc. A finished wreath will be about four inches larger than the frame size. I wire two frames together to form a center "pocket" between them. This pocket will be filled with soil for the roots. I purchased a bale of Oregon Moss and a supply of latex-type surgical gloves that I wear as protection every time I work with the moss. I soak some moss in a pail of water overnight, then gently squeeze out the excess before working. I cover my table with plastic for easier clean up. I lay out moss, green side down, in a "mat" about 2-1/2 times the size of the frame and about ½-inch thick and "patch" any thin spots.

If I intend the wreath to hang, I attach a wire hook or loop at the back of the frame and long enough to poke through the moss and do its job. Sometimes I attach "feet" so the wreath can sit on a table. I place the frame in the center of my moss mat and fill the "pocket" with moist potting soil and gently pat it. Now comes the hardest part. The moss must be wrapped securely around the frame and be wired so the "garden" you are creating does not fall apart. This takes patience, practice, experimenting, frustration, "time-outs," and a feeling you need four hands. Finally, I have wrapped the moss up and over the outer edge of the frame toward the center, then cut the moss that is under the center of the frame and rolled it up and over the center covering the frame from that direction. At the same time, I am wrapping the soil-filled, moss-covered frame with copper wire. When finished, I'm now ready to plant succulents into my wreath base.

My yard is my treasure-trove for deciding what succulents will go into each wreath. My most popular is the crassula. When I moved to San Diego in 1977, my mother visited and she bought me a small, ordinary Jade plant (crassula). I think half the gardens in San Diego have at least one crassula from my mother's plant because of the hundreds and hundreds of pieces I have broken off and given to friends, strangers, and garden club members all these years. Some of her crassula is in wreaths I've shipped all over the country, and I still have most of the original plant growing in my own yard today.

I use any succulent that appeals to me with regard to size, color, shape, and texture. I harvest succulents by clipping or snapping pieces from the mother plant, then let them callus for a couple days before I plant them in my wreath base. I've used forceps, long tweezers, and needle-nosed pliers to poke planting holes in my wreath so I can insert my cuttings. If I've planted a specimen and it doesn't seem to hold in the soil, I'll use a floral pin to gently hold it in place until it grows roots. I often hang my wreath while I'm planting and step back to get an overall view of how the different plant materials look together. I'll add filler plants to add an accent or a highlight to the wreath. It's all fun now until the wreath is finished.

If I add a hook, the succulent wreath can hang on a door, gate, fence, post, or wherever desired. If designed with "feet," it can be placed on a table to use as a centerpiece and you can even put a candle in the middle. Always put a plate, dish, foil or something protective under or behind the wreath so no moisture or candle drippings reach the table or an interior door or wall. Succulent wreaths can be used all year and they make unique and exciting gifts not only for the upcoming holidays, but also for birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, housewarmings, and simply to let someone know you are thinking of them.

For information about her succulent wreaths, email Dorothy Carroll at dcarroll92109@Yahoo.com, or she can be reached at 619-302-8010.

With a little care . . .

✔All plants require the same things: air circulation, water, fertilizer, light, and pruning.

✔For the first week or two, keep the succulent wreath in bright light but out of direct sun. Then gradually move it to a sunnier location. It can live indoors or outdoors.

✔Do not over-water your wreath! Succulents will rot if over-watered. When to water: squeeze the wreath from the back. If the moss is dry, but the wreath feels soft, do not water. If the moss is dry and the wreath is beginning to feel firm, then water deeply to encourage deep root growth. Do not mist the wreath. Water it deeply by dunking the wreath in water or use a hose to saturate the top of the wreath; then allow that water to drip down and wet the lower half.

✔You will not need to fertilize your wreath more than once every two years. Then use only a diluted mix of a high potassium and phosphorous liquid fertilizer at one-fourth strength. This adds vigor without adding fast growth.

✔Succulents grow slowly in the wreath, but when pruning is necessary, go ahead and trim the plants. Allow the cut end of the piece you removed to dry for a few hours. Then it can be planted in loose soil. This will root, giving you a new plant.

✔Do not be concerned if a few leaves break off your wreath, or even if one of the plants drops out. Just carefully poke it back into the hole and press the moss around the plant's base. In time, new roots will form and take hold in the soil within the wreath.
Enjoy!—DC

the wreath will grow for years.

Is It Hot in Here?

BY BOB HORWITZ

Peppers (capsicum) epitomize heat, both culinary and environmentally. They need heat for maturing their fruit, which in turn gives them the hot taste that has become a necessity for cooking worldwide. Peppers originated in the New World and quickly spread worldwide. The centuries-old spice trade business may have had something to do with this rapid spread and acceptance.

There is a wonderful range of peppers that we can grow in our own gardens, both for culinary and garden display purposes. The selection runs from the mild sweet green and red bell peppers to the warmer poblanos and Anaheims. Then on to the small red ones, going from hot to hotter. You probably can find over 30 varieties.

The soil for growing peppers needs richness with lots of humus. You can grow them from seed or speed the process by buying them in flats. Plant them a foot apart in a good sunny location. Keep the soil damp but not sodden. Aphids love peppers and ants love aphids, so you may have to do some insect controlling. Choose a control that is not harmful to you or the plants. Harvest the fruit of sweet peppers when they reach maturity. If they become over-ripe, they can become bitter. The hot pepper varieties can be picked when ripe or left on the plant to dry. The longer they are left on the plants, the hotter they become. From a landscape point of view, a hot pepper plant with lots of red fruit contrasting with the greenery of foliage is pleasant to look at, especially knowing what the fruit portends gastronomically in the future.

Here is a simple recipe using green or red sweet peppers.

Stuffed Bell Peppers

4 large green or red or mixed bell peppers
2 cups of cooked rice
1 onion, chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
½ teaspoon fennel seeds
½ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon ground pepper
½ pound ground turkey
½ teaspoon dried oregano
1 8-oz. can tomato sauce
1 teaspoon olive oil

Sauté the ground turkey in the olive oil until thoroughly browned; add the onions, garlic, salt, pepper, oregano, and fennel seeds to the pan and sauté until the onions are limp. Stir often. Cut the tops off the peppers and clean out the seeds and membrane. Mix the rice into all of the other ingredients. Stuff the peppers with the mixture. Pour the tomato sauce into a pan large enough to hold the four peppers. Place the peppers in the pan and cover. Bring the sauce to a low simmer and cook until peppers are tender, about 20 minutes. Serve with sauce spooned over the top.

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December Calendar of Events

December 1-26 | Friday-Tuesday

Botanical Building Poinsettia Display. Magnificent poinsettia plants turn historic 1ath Botanical Building into a glowing tribute to the holidays. Twentieth consecutive year. 10 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Fridays through Wednesdays. Free. www.balboapark.org.

December 1-2 | Friday and Saturday

December Nights Celebration in Balboa Park. Room 101 of Casa del Prado in Balboa Park will be transformed by the San Diego Floral Association and its affiliated Garden Clubs and Plant Societies into a holiday wonderland of "Celebrations Around the World." Free. Friday: 5–9 p.m.; Saturday: Noon–9 p.m. Protea flowers and gingerbread cookies for sale. 619-232-5762 for information.

December Nights Preview Tea. 2–4 p.m., Friday, Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Members of San Diego Floral Association and Exhibiting Garden Clubs and Plant Societies only. Complimentary; sponsored by Flower Arranger's Guild. 619-232-5762 for information.

December 2 | Saturday

Walter Andersen Nursery Classes: Pruning—Apples, Pears, Figs, Persimmons. Free. 9:00 a.m. 3642 Enterprise St., Point Loma. Houseplant Care and Culture. 9:30 a.m. 12755 Danielson Court, Poway. 858-513-4900. www.walterandersen.com.

December 4 | Monday

Palomar District Floral Design Forum. Christmas design theme with Western and Oriental Styles. Sandi Schmitt, Floral Designer and Florist. 12:30 p.m., The Woman's Club of Carlsbad, 3320 Monroe Street in Carlsbad. $8 or $45 for a series of eight sessions. October through May. Velma West, 760-747-6615, or Deedee Speer, 760-749-9608, for information.

December 5 | Tuesday

La Jolla Garden Club Annual Holiday Tea and Bazaar. 1:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m. at Torrey Pines Christian Church, 8320 La Jolla Scenic Drive North, La Jolla. The La Jolla High School Choir will provide entertainment. Bazaar and bake sale. $10 donation toward college horticultural scholarships. Tickets and information: Carolyn Doggett, 858-488-5853.

December 6 | Wednesday

Point Loma Garden Club Monthly Meeting. Bette Childs and Joanie Espy, "The Flower Girls," also known as "Garage Sale Grannies," will demonstrate how to create unique and whimsical container gardens for the home, patio, and garden in unusual, decorative containers that can be picked up almost anywhere. 10 a.m. Free. Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal, San Diego, CA 92106. www.plgc.org

December 7-10 | Thursday-Sunday

Quail Botanical Gardens Holiday Garden of Lights, 5–9 p.m., $8, adults; $6, members, seniors, active military, and students. $3, children ages 3–12; children under 3 are free. Additional fees for some activities. Over 90,000 sparkling lights illuminate the garden, and many family friendly activities are included. For more information, call 760-436-3036, ext 206, or visit www.qbgardens.org.

December 9 | Saturday

Walter Andersen Nursery Classes: Pruning Roses. Free. 9:00 a.m. 3642 Enterprise St., Point Loma. Pruning Roses. 9:30 a.m. 12755 Danielson Court, Poway. 858-513-4900. www.walterandersen.com.

December 10 | Sunday

San Diego Bonsai Club Meeting. Demonstration by Warren Hill. 9 a.m.–12 noon, Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Please check in with membership secretary when you arrive. Call 619-699-8776 or visit www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com for further information.

December 12 | Tuesday

San Diego Geranium Society Monthly Meeting with a special Christmas show. 7 p.m., Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Plant raffle and refreshments. Free. Contact Amanda Langdon, Secretary, for further information. Amanda.Langdon@firstmagnus.com

December 13 | Wednesday

Bonita Valley Garden Club Meeting. 9 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Christmas Party. Contact Sue Hauwiller, 619-934-6363, for further information or visit www.bonitavalleygardenclub.org.

December 14-23 and 26-30

Quail Botanical Garden's Holiday Garden of Lights, 5–9 p.m., $8, adults; $6, members, seniors, active military, and students; $3, children ages 3–12; children under 3 are free. Additional fees for some activities. Over 90,00 sparkling lights illuminate the garden, and many family-friendly activities are included. For more information, call 760-436-3036, ext 206, or visit www.qbgardens.org.

December 16 | Saturday

Walter Andersen Nursery Classes: Pruning Peaches and Nectarines. Free. 9:00 a.m., 3642 Enterprise St., Point Loma. Caring for Poinsettias, Living Christmas Trees, and Cut Trees. 9:30 a.m. 12755 Danielson Court, Poway. 858-513-4900. www.walterandersen.com.

December 20 | Wednesday

Ikebana International, Showcase of Japanese-style flower arrangements created especially for the holidays. 10 a.m. Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Guests welcome. Call Sue at 760-728-5586 for more information.

December 30 | Saturday

Walter Andersen Nursery Classes: Pruning Apricots and Plums. Free. 9:00 a.m. 3642 Enterprise St., Point Loma. Fruit Tree Pruning. 9:30 a.m. 12755 Danielson Court, Poway. 858-513-4900. www.walterandersen.com

Meet the Breeders, an orchid educational event and plant sale presented by the San Diego County Cymbidium Society. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Womans Club, 3320 Monroe Street, Carlsbad. Call Bruce Kidd at 951-600-1393 for reservations and information or email sdcymsoc@yahoo.com.

Deadline for submissions to horticultural calendar for January/February 2007 issue is November 20. Email event info to calendar@sdfloral.org. San Diego Floral Association is not responsible for last-minute changes or any information submitted late by the organizations.

PS Form 3526 Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation

1. *California Garden*; 2. 0008-1116; 3. 10-06-06; 4. bimonthly; 5. 6; 6. $12.00; 7. 1650 El Prado, #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1622; 8. San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado, #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1622; 9. San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado, #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1622, editor: John Hogan, San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado, #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1622. Managing editor: N/A. 10. San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado, #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1622; 11. None; 12. Has not changed during preceding 12 months; 13. *California Garden*; 14. September/October 2006; 15.a. 1551, 1,700; 15.b. (1) 131, 148; (2) 1,131, 1,217; (3) 30, 50; (4) 9, 13; 15.c 1,301, 1,428; 15.d (1) 0, 0; (2) 0, 0; (3) 20, 30; (4) 100, 150; 15.e 120, 180; 15.f 1,421, 1,608; 15.g 130, 92; 15.h 1,551, 1,700; 15.i 92%, 89%; 16. Publication of Statement of Ownership will be printed in the November/December 2006 issue of this publication; 17. Karin Kratz, Calendar Editor, *California Garden*; Corresponding Secretary, San Diego Floral Association, 10-6-06

November 2006

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3 Carlsbad Garden Club presentation on garden containers.	4 San Diego Horticultural Society Annual Fall Plant Sale. 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Walter Andersen Nursery Classes: Fall Decorating Ideas 9:30 a.m. and Camellias and Azaleas 9:00 a.m.
5 East County Rose Society 2–4 p.m. Aki No Matsuri Fall Festival, 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.	6 Palomar District Floral Design Forum 12:30 p.m.	7 San Diego Floral Association Workshop on Ninety-Nine Cent Floral Design	8 Bonita Valley Garden Club Meeting. 9 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Point Loma Garden Club Monthly Meeting 10 a.m.	9	10 Bonita Valley Garden Club Flower Show	11 Bonita Valley Garden Club Flower Show San Diego Bromeliad Society Meeting 10 a.m. Walter Andersen Nursery Classes: Ornamental Grasses 9:30 a.m. Poinsettias 9:00 a.m.
12	13 San Diego Horticultural Society Meeting 6:00 p.m.	14 San Diego Geranium Society Meeting 7 p.m.	15 Mission Hills Garden Club Ring in the Season and Arts and Crafts Festival 6:00 p.m. Ikebana International Demonstration of Flower Arranging 10 a.m.	16	17	18 Walter Andersen Nursery Classes: Tillandsias and Bromeliads 9:30 a.m. Dormant Spraying/Pruning Grapes and Berries 9:00 a.m.
19	20 San Diego Rose Society Meeting 7 p.m.	21 San Diego Floral Association Workshop on a Thanksgiving Centerpiece for Table or Buffet, "Pretty Enough to Eat" 9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. California Native Plant Society 7 p.m.	22 Ikebana International Meeting 10 a.m.	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

December 2006

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					1 Botanical Building Poinsettia Display 10 a.m.–4:00 p.m. December Nights Celebration in Balboa Park 5–9 p.m. December Nights Preview Tea 2–4 p.m.	2 Botanical Building Poinsettia Display 10 a.m. 4:00 p.m. December Nights Celebration in Balboa Park Noon–9 p.m. Walter Andersen Classes: Pruning 9:00 a.m. Houseplant Care and Culture 9:30 a.m.
3 Botanical Building Poinsettia Display 10 a.m.–4:00 p.m.	4 Botanical Building Poinsettia Display 10 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Palomar District Floral Design Forum 12:30 p.m.	5 Botanical Building Poinsettia Display 10 a.m.–4:00 p.m. La Jolla Garden Club Annual Holiday Tea and Bazaar 1:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m.	6 Botanical Building Poinsettia Display 10 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Point Loma Garden Club Monthly Meeting 10 a.m.	7 Quail Botanical Garden's Holiday Garden of Lights	8 Quail Botanical Garden's Holiday Garden of Lights Botanical Building Poinsettia Display 10 a.m.–4:00 p.m.	9 Quail Botanical Garden's Holiday Garden of Lights Botanical Building Poinsettia Display 10 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Walter Andersen Nursery Classes: Pruning Roses. 9:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.
10 Quail Botanical Garden's Holiday Garden of Lights San Diego Bonsai Club Meeting 9 a.m.–12 noon	11	12 Botanical Building Poinsettia Display 10 a.m.–4:00 p.m. San Diego Geranium Society Monthly Meeting 7 p.m.	13 Botanical Building Poinsettia Display 10 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Bonita Valley Garden Club Meeting 9 a.m.–2:30 p.m.	14 Quail Botanical Garden's Holiday Garden of Lights	15 Quail Botanical Garden's Holiday Garden of Lights Botanical Building Poinsettia Display 10 a.m.–4:00 p.m.	16 Botanical Building Poinsettia Display 10 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Walter Andersen Nursery Classes: Pruning Peaches and Nectarines 9:00 a.m. Caring for Poinsettias, Living Christmas Trees, and Cut Trees 9:30 a.m.
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24/31	25	26 Quail Botanical Garden's Holiday Garden of Lights Botanical Building Poinsettia Display 10 a.m.–4:00 p.m.	27 Quail Botanical Garden's Holiday Garden of Lights	28 Quail Botanical Garden's Holiday Garden of Lights	29 Quail Botanical Garden's Holiday Garden of Lights	30 Quail Botanical Garden's Holiday Garden of Lights Walter Andersen Nursery Classes: Pruning Apricots and Plums 9:00 a.m. Fruit Tree Pruning. 9:30 a.m. Meet the Breeders, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

November Calendar of Events

November 3 | Friday

Carlsbad Garden Club. Sergio of Plantplay Nursery will speak on creating garden containers. Advice will include information on choosing the best plants for dramatic effects and how to keep them healthy and everlasting. Heritage Hall, Magee Park, 2650 Garfield Street, Carlsbad. Free. 760-931-9863 or www.carlsbadgardenclub.org.

November 4 | Saturday

San Diego Horticultural Society Annual Fall Plant Sale. 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. at the Bernardo Winery, 13330 Paseo Del Verano Norte, Rancho Bernardo. Includes a series of free talks by experts on a wide variety of topics, including bamboo, herbs, succulents, and ornamental plants for fall gardens. Catered picnic available from 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. For further information, call 760-295-7089 or visit www.SDHortSoc.org

Walter Andersen Nursery Classes: Fall Decorating Ideas with Sharon May, author of "May in the Garden." Free. 9:30 a.m. 12755 Danielson Court, Poway, 858-513-4900. Camellias and Azaleas. 9:00 a.m. 3642 Enterprise St., Point Loma. www.walterandersen.com.

November 5 | Sunday

East County Rose Society 2–4 p.m. Speaker will be a representative from Nor'East Roses. Call Karen at 619-252-2116 for meeting location.

Aki No Matsuri Fall Festival at the Japanese Friendship Garden, 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. $25, members; $30, nonmembers, $10 for children 12 and under. Reservations required by November 1. Call 619-232-2721 for more information.

November 6| Monday

Palomar District Floral Design Forum. Designs will be presented by Robert Gordon, AIFD San Luis Obispo. 12:30 p.m. The Woman's Club of Carlsbad, 3320 Monroe Street in Carlsbad. $8 or $45 for a series of eight sessions, October through May. Velma West, 760-747-6615 or Deedee Speer, 760-749-9608 for information.

November 7 | Tuesday

San Diego Floral Association Workshop on Ninety-Nine Cent Floral Design. Make an innovative design using an article purchased from a 99-cent store, such as a vase, dish, cloth, a scrubby, or toy. Teacher: Velma West, retired flower judge, award-winning floral designer, and teacher. Bring flowers, containers, clippers, and your lunch. Cost: $20. 9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. in Room 104, Casa del Prado. Coffee and sweets provided; bring your own lunch. Call Marie Walsh for information at 619-298-5182. To register and pay, contact the Association at 619-232-5762. Preregistration recommended as enrollment is limited.

November 8 | Wednesday

Bonita Valley Garden Club Meeting. 9 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Walter Pagets of the International Waterlily Society will speak on Waterlily Gardens. Complimentary lunch and tour of Waterlily Gardens and Frederika Manor. Contact Sue Hauwiller, 619-934-6363, for further information or visit www.bonitavalleygardenclub.org.

November 8 | Wednesday

Point Loma Garden Club Monthly Meeting. Shelley Grossman, owner of Vermicoast in Carlsbad, will speak on "The Worm's Important Role in Our Gardens." Shelley is a certified Master Composter and Vermiculturalist and co-author of the book *Recycle with Earthworms.* 10 a.m. Free. Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal, San Diego, CA 92106. 12 noon. Workshop—Punch-Out Ornaments. Maureen Ceccarelli will assist in making tin punch-out ornaments. All materials are provided. Fee $20. For reservations and information, contact workshop@plgc.org.

November 10-11 | Friday-Saturday

Bonita Valley Garden Club Flower Show. "Holiday Theme," Bonita Museum and Cultural Center and Bonita/Sunnyside Community Room, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita. Contact Sue Hauwiller, 619-934-6363, for further information or visit www.bonitavalleygardenclub.org.

November 11 | Saturday

San Diego Bromeliad Society Meeting. 10 a.m., Room 104, Botanical Library Room, Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park.

Walter Andersen Nursery Classes: Ornamental Grasses with Randy Crow from Green Meadow Growers. Free. 9:30 a.m. 12755 Danielson Court, Poway, 858-513-4900. Poinsettias, 9:00 a.m. 3642 Enterprise St., Point Loma. www.walterandersen.com.

November 13 | Monday

San Diego Horticultural Society Meeting. Tom del Hotal will speak on "Fruit Trees in the Ornamental Landscape" 6:00 p.m. in the Surfside Race Place at the Del Mar Fairgrounds on Jimmy Durante Blvd. in Del Mar. Information: 760-295-7089 or www.sdhortsoc.org.

November 14 | Tuesday

San Diego Geranium Society Meeting. Presentation by Jim Zemcik on fall pruning. 7 p.m. Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Free. Plant raffle and refreshments. Amanda.Langdon@firstmagnus.com for information.

November 15 | Wednesday

Mission Hills Garden Club Ring in the Season and Annual Arts and Crafts Festival. Learn to create live wreaths under the direction of Meredith French. Bring holly, rosemary, lavender, and other garden materials to share. 6:00 p.m. social, 6:30 p.m. meeting, at United Church of Christ, 4070 Jackdaw Street, San Diego. Free to members, $10 for guests. Call 619-255-2110 for information or visit www.misionhillsgardenclub.org.

Ikebana International Demonstration of Flower Arranging by Haruko Crawford, Chapter President of the Ichiyo School of Ikebana. A workshop for participants to create their own arrangements will follow. 10 a.m., Room 101, Casa del Prado. Guests welcome. Call Sue at 760-728-5586 for more information.

November 18 | Saturday

Walter Andersen Nursery Classes: Tillandsias and Bromeliads with Ken Andersen. Free. 9:30 a.m. 12755 Danielson Court, Poway, 858-513-4900. Dormant Spraying/Pruning Grapes and Berries, 9:00 a.m. 3642 Enterprise St., Point Loma. www.walterandersen.com.

November 20 | Monday

San Diego Rose Society Meeting. Tom Carruth, chief hybridizer for Weeks Rose since 1988, will speak. Free. Visitors welcome. 7 p.m., Consulting Rosarian Corner with Phil Ash. Bring questions. 7:30 p.m. program. Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. www.sdrosesociety.org.

November 21 | Tuesday

San Diego Floral Association Workshop on a Thanksgiving Centerpiece for Table or Buffet, "Pretty Enough to Eat." Use fruits, flowers, candles, and veggies assembled in an insert ready to insert in a vase. Teacher: Velma West, retired flower judge, award-winning floral designer, and teacher. Bring flowers, containers, clippers, and your lunch. Cost: $50, members; $60, nonmembers; all materials supplied. 9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. in Room 104, Casa del Prado. Coffee and sweets provided; bring your own lunch. Call Marie Walsh for information at 619-298-5182. To register and pay, contact the Association at 619-232-5762. Preregistration recommended as enrollment is limited.

CNPS San Diego Chapter, California Native Plant Society, 7 p.m., Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Free. 619-685-7321.

November 22 | Wednesday

Ikebana International Meeting, 10 a.m., Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park.

Ongoing Events

LOCAL GARDENING TELEVISION PROGRAMS

Down to Earth with Tom Piergrossi, daily at 11:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. on CTN, Time Warner 22, Cox 19 or 24, and Adelphia 66

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The Colors of Roses
Part II: Whites

BY FREDRIK LILJEBLAD

You would think that choosing—or for that matter writing about—white roses would be an easy task, but there are amazingly many "shades" of white, especially when placed next to each other—pure "kabuki" white, creamy white, white with a hint of yellow, greenish white, white with a hint of pink, and even more bloom shapes. I've grown all these whites with varying results. One important thing to remember: Most—almost all—white roses water spot. Since we seldom have to worry about summer rainfall here in SoCal, that might not seem relevant but, when watering or spraying, remember that rose blooms don't know the difference between applied overhead water or rain from the sky. This doesn't matter so long as buds are tightly closed, but once they begin to show color, be careful.

Anastasia

I had expected more from this Hybrid Tea (HT). I don't want to condemn it in general, because it's universally praised as a rose that does well in the heat. The good news is that Anastasia was fairly resistant to water-spotting. But it was very susceptible to rust, somewhat susceptible to Powdery Mildew, and not an excessively healthy rose in general. Perhaps inland gardeners will fare better, but to add insult to injury, the slightly lemony-white blooms were on the small side (just about 3 inches) for an HT and blew fairly quickly. There was only a very slight, "garden" scent to them.

The roses listed in this series of articles are all roses that I either grow or have grown in my Normal Heights garden. I have found that most garden catalogues, even local ones, are impossibly vague and give nothing but praise for the roses they're trying to flog. Here, for whatever it's worth, is an alphabetical list of these roses which, just like people, have their strengths and weaknesses. Since a picture is worth a thousand words, check out roses of interest by name at http://www.helpmefind.com/rose/roses.php; clicking the photo tab at the top of the page will usually give multiple photos of the rose in bloom.

This is not a complete list, and it doesn't give a how-to of rose care. All roses need the same main things: sun; deep, thorough, weekly watering (for in-ground roses; potted roses are a different story); good air circulation, good soil (properly amended), regular fertilizing, and proper pruning (not butchering back to three-inch stumps à la East Coast). Disease control is useful—the operative word being control, not eradication. I personally do not use any insect controls, other than to deal with earwigs in "bad" years. I find that encouraging beneficials is better than creating a chemical moonscape. The odd chewed leaf or gnawed upon bud is, for me at least, worth the alternative.

Crystalline

This was developed as an exhibition rose, and it has all the faults and virtues of such roses. The extremely large (5½–6 inch), pure white blooms are produced on thick, single stems. They are produced mainly in the spring and autumn and are few and far between. They water spot very badly. The plant grows quite vertically, with deep green foliage that mildews somewhat, but is a total rust-magnet—one of the worst. Blooms tend to ball in the damp, overcast spring weather. When this rose is lovely, it is perfect, but that's so seldom, I've just found it isn't worth it for me.

Full Sail*

You'll notice that this is the only exceptionally fragrant white rose that I grow (the only other one is White Lightnin', which needs more heat and humidity to perform well than I can provide). Few white roses, in fact, have much scent, if any. Were it not for that fragrance, I doubt I'd still be growing this rose. Despite the inordinate hype upon its debut, it has many faults—at least here near the coast (I'm told it fares better inland). First, it mainly blooms in spring and autumn, which wouldn't be a problem except that the large, many-petaled blooms tend to ball in cool weather. That means that about two out of five blooms fail to open entirely for me. Blooms also tend to water spot badly. Next, the color—again, here near the coast—is as often as not an off-white with a hint of flesh tone that is reminiscent of poached chicken breast. Okay, here's the good news: The deep, vibrant green foliage is as disease-free as you'll find in any rose; the bloom scent is magnificent and pervasive (although a bit on the "Camay soap" side for my personal taste), and the bush is large and vigorous, but not so vigorous that you need to prune more than average. If you live in a noncoastal climate, it might be worth trying, but keep it in a 15-gallon container for the first couple of years until you're sure it will perform for you.

Honor

This rose was a slow starter in my garden, but now, beginning its 4th season, seems to be living up to its potential. If I had to rate my white roses, it would come in fourth, after Karen Blixen,

**Indicates intense fragrance.*

Tineke, "Mystery White," and tied with Polar Star. Blooms are usually slightly smaller than the aforementioned roses, about 3½ inches, and are slightly creamy/lemony white at the very center. It's an odd rose in that 75 percent of the time it behaves like a sort of large-flowered Floribunda (it's actually classified as an HT), producing several buds to a stem, but every now and then it remembers it's an HT and throws up a large, single bloom. The flowers, although of deeper form than Angel Face or Livin' Easy, have a similar camellia-like shape, rather than the classic urn form of most HTs. Foliage, I regret to say, tends to be prone to both Powdery Mildew and rust, but as the plant matures, it tends to become somewhat more resistant.

Karen Blixen

Absolutely my best-performing white HT! The large (5–5½ inch), scentless blooms are a pure, glistening white, almost always produced on single stems, and appear in regular succession throughout the season, although heaviest bloom is in spring and late autumn. They open fully, rarely water spot (that doesn't mean you can douse them with overhead water, however), and are one of the longest-lasting of my white roses. The foliage on the 5-foot-high plants (I have two—that's how much I like this rose) is large, dark pine green, not very shiny. That usually means that a rose is susceptible to foliage diseases, but in this case, the only problem is fairly mild Powdery Mildew in early spring. No rust. If you're a coastal gardener, I can highly recommend it.

"Mystery White" (*probably* John F. Kennedy)

An inherited rose that, by the process of elimination, seems to be a slightly atypically performing John F. Kennedy. This is my most reliable producer of medium-sized (3½ inches), pure white, high-centered blossoms with the faintest green tinge at the heart. The blooms are produced lavishly—easily a dozen at a time—in 6-week cycles all season long, from April through late October or November. Foliage isn't entirely disease-resistant, but the bush is never a basket case, either. Blooms don't ball in spring, but they *occasionally* shrivel as cut flowers. Grows larger than JFK is reputed to, about 4½ feet high, but tends to be rather airy. Fertilize generously to support the abundant bloom.

Pascali

I used to grow this rose in a different climate and expected the same when I got one for this garden. Wrong! That's something both rose sellers and rose buyers need to remember: Just because you (or your mother, or teacher, or favorite aunt) grew a rose successfully "back home" doesn't mean that it will perform as you remember. Medallion (see Orange/Apricot/Peach) is another perfect example: Its gorgeous blooms are much peachier here in the strong SoCal sun than in cooler northern climates, where they have an amber/apricot quality. Back to Pascali. Here, Pascali has remained a rather small but still lovely rose. It is rather smallish (about 3–3½ feet), is rather prone to Powdery Mildew, and, surprisingly, is very attractive to chewing insects, who love its bluish green foliage. It bravely produces its lovely, smallish (about 3-inch) blooms fairly generously—although you really need to give this rose the best of care—a sunny site, regular, somewhat lavish fertilizer, etc. If this is too much trouble, then this rose isn't for you, but its blooms, small as they are, have a most unique—almost gardenia-like—petal texture. For me, they are as exquisite as I remembered—and sentiment, within bounds, *does* have a place in the garden, after all.

Polar Star

This white rose has proven to do very well for me and regularly produces lots of fairly large (4–4½ inch) white blooms, not always entirely single-stemmed (but you can disbud if you catch them early enough). The two characteristics that I mark it down on might not be faults in other people's eyes: 1) the blooms have a faintly warm, creamy white center—they aren't "99 and 44/100ths percent pure" white; 2) as the long-lasting blooms age, the outer petals tend to quill (rose-speak for roses where the petals reflex to form points, giving the fully open rose a starlike look). Otherwise, it's a great rose: healthy, good foliage, decent HT-type size bush (about 4 feet).

Sombreuil (CL)

This is an old-fashioned climber with profuse, smallish (about 3-inch) clusters of ruffled white blooms. The blossoms have a hint of blush at the heart in spring but are pure white in summer. Although Sombreuil (actually, the Sombreuil sold in this country is probably a rose known as Colonial White) produces its heaviest bloom in spring, with a slightly less spectacular show in autumn, it has some blooms nearly all season long. Like all climbers, it takes a year or two to get started, but it is a lovely rose. Unlike my other favorite white climber, Climbing Frau Karl Druschki, which I don't grow here for space reasons, Sombreuil is a well-behaved climber and will keep within bounds. Its thin, flexible canes make it perfect for twining through a free-standing trellis, which is how I use it. Although it has the typical "parrot's beak" thorns, they're smaller and much less closely spaced than you'd expect from a climber. Blooms are somewhat scented, but not to the degree that they can be said to perfume the garden.

Tineke

Except that this rose produces slightly smaller, slightly less high-centered blooms than Karen Blixen, and not always single stemmed, it is my second-best performer here in my garden, and even more prolific than KB! Tons and tons of blooms. It's healthy, has beautiful foliage, and is an all-round great white rose. (Most easily available as a bare root from Edmunds Roses)

Fredrik Liljeblad is a professional writer and editor who is currently working on a book, Rose Gardening in Southern California. He has gardened in San Diego for more than a dozen years, as well as in diverse climates around the world.

The Water Conservation Garden Honors H. Warren Buckner

BY VIRGINIA MAPLES INNIS

The water conservation garden opened in 1999. In 2005, the garden decided to honor H. Warren Buckner with an area of the garden bearing his name. He had always been mentioned as being responsible for starting the garden.

The area selected was where cactus and succulents grew. It was an area that hadn't done well and needed a redo. It seemed an appropriate selection, as H. Warren Buckner is a sort of cactus and succulent person! The Garden notified Buckner's son of its intent, and he offered to design and build the garden.

The Cactus and Succulent Society

Both H. Warren Buckner and his son Michael have at different times served as president of the large San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society. Both father and son were also at different times awarded an Honorary Lifetime Membership. This honor was also extended to H. Warren's wife, Virginia, and Michael's wife, Joyce.

Michael is one of four sons brought up by the Buckners in Lemon Grove. H. Warren was employed by General Dynamics for 33 years. He served for 20 years on the Lemon Grove Board of Education, five times as president. He served on the Helix Water District Board for 28 years. He served on the Water Conservation Board for six years as its president.

On November 20, 2005, Virginia Buckner was present at the dedication of the H. Warren Buckner Garden. Over a hundred dignitaries, friends, and family were present at the dedication.

Michael Buckner credits his mother for making it possible for his father to accomplish as much as he did. Virginia Buckner is reported as a generous woman who had the time-management skill that gave her husband free time.

For years, Michael Buckner created award-winning gardens for the San Diego County Fair for the Cactus and Succulent Society. Also using cactus and succulents, he has designed many private gardens. The Water Conservation Garden knew this information and was delighted to have Michael's design and his labor to build the garden.

Mary Eberhardt, executive director, said that the plants, the materials, and labor exceed $100,000 in value. (The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society donated $2,500 to this project.)

The H. Warren Buckner Garden

The H. Warren Buckner Garden is located about 100 yards from the garden's front entry. A bright mosaic plaque made by San Diego artist Patricia Kaszas identifies the garden.

The garden is a rocky arroyo (wash) that undulates through the garden. Lavender gray boulders were donated by KRC Rock. Three North San Diego County wholesale nurseries donated plants: the Good Earth Nursery, Western Cactus Enterprise, and the C & J Cactus Nursery. The Good Earth Nursery donated a very large "Golden Barrel" cactus planted 25 to 30 years ago. A son of the owner, who later died in a tragic accident, planted it. The gift is considered a commemoration.

The Buckners donated plants from Joyce and Michael's store, The Plant Man, located on Congress Street in Old Town, San Diego. They also gave a 60-year-old elephant-footed palm that had been in Michael's nursery when it was located in Bazaar del Mundo in Old Town.

The garden has new hybrids along with old plants. Bloom time will vary, but a lot of bloom is expected at Christmastime.

Virginia M. Innis is a member of the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society, the Flower Arrangers' Guild of San Diego Floral Association, and a past president of the Association.

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Hummingbirds, Naturally

BY PAT PAWLOWSKI

A garden without a hummingbird is like a day without sunshine (although, during the long hot summer in East County, a sunless day would have been welcomed by overheated gardeners like me).

Anyway, almost everyone likes hummingbirds, except tiny insects such as fruit flies and gnats, which provide the protein and fats in one-third of an adult hummer's diet. The other two-thirds of the bird's diet consists of nectar acquired from various blossoms and maybe a hummingbird feeder or two.

But really, what good does a hummer do besides provide a type of eyeball candy? Well, hummers pollinate flowers, the sexual parts of plants. Without plant sex, there would be no new plants, and without plants, there would be no us.

How about that?

So we see that it is very important to be kind and helpful to hummingbirds.

But in these busy, high-gas-priced times, the important question for some of us friendly bird and blossom fiends is how to attract the most hummers with the least effort and economic outlay.

The Two Bills

In selecting plants to attract hummingbirds, there are two types of bills to consider: (1) the bird's bill, which protects the bird's flower-probing tongue as it extracts nectar from tubular-shaped blooms; and (2) the water bill, which attacks the cash-strapped human being's wallet.

What kinds of plants will both accommodate the wonderful hummingbird bill and thwart the evil water bill?

Drought-tolerant California native plants, indubitably.

It is an inconvenient truth that, of the 21 hottest years on record, 20 have occurred since 1980. Extra hot days mean extra watering, especially of high-water-demanders like many exotic species. Nonthirsty California natives can bring more pleasure and less work—a sort of Fantasy Island for the gardener.

The Plants, the Plants

Some hummers' favorite blooming natives include:

Agaves (*Agave spp.*)—Succulents, some large, some not; interesting thick leaves, many good in pots.

Manzanitas (*Arctostaphylos spp.*)—Shrubs and trees with petite urn-shaped flowers followed by tiny apple-looking fruits.

Chuparosa (*Beloperone californica*)—Deciduous smallish shrub with flowers that hummers love and foliage that looks anorexic.

California lilac (*Ceanothus spp.*)—Excellent evergreen shrubs and trees with flowers ranging from blues to whites to lavenders. Added attractions include songbirds, which eat the seeds, and pale swallowtail butterflies, which use *ceanothus* as a host plant.

Western redbud (*Cercis occidentalis*)—Small deciduous tree with riotously bright magenta flowers and heart-shaped leaves.

Desert willow (*Chilopsis linearis*)—Small, graceful, willowy deciduous tree with large pinkish purple flowers.

Scarlet larkspur (*Delphinium cardinale*)—Perennial with red flowers so pretty and agreeable that you can cut them and bring them indoors if the hummers let you.

Live-forevers (*Dudleya spp.*)—Succulents, one with an extra added attraction: *D. lanceolata* is a host plant for the sonora blue butterfly.

California fuchsia (*Epilobium californica*)—Willowy perennial with gray-green leaves and bodaciously bright red-orange flowers.

Island snapdragon (*Galvezia speciosa*)—Perennial with red flowers in spring.

Tree mallow (*Lavatera assurgentiflora*)—Large evergreen shrub with lavender flowers and speedy growth; hummers hum over this one.

Chaparral honeysuckle (*Lonicera subspicata*) and Pink chaparral honeysuckle (*Lonicera hispidula*)—Viners and climbers with pink or white flowers.

Lupines (*Lupinus spp.*)—Annuals and perennials, all good for attracting hummers.

Monkeyflowers (*Mimulus spp.*)—Perennials, some needing more water than others. In my opinion, the flowers do not look anything like monkeys and I have never observed monkeys looking at the flowers.

Scarlet coyote mint (*Monardella macrantha*)—Small herbaceous perennial with red flowers. Many of the other Monardellas attract butterflies.

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Penstemon (*Penstemon spp.*)—Herbaceous perennials of varied sizes, flowers of various colors, all attractive in bloom. Scarlet bugler (*Penstemon centranthifolius*) is a hummingbird favorite.

Gooseberries and Currants (*Ribes spp.*)—Small shrubs, some evergreen, some not; gooseberries have thorns; currants are ouchless. Added plus: Other kinds of birds eat the fruits, hopefully drawing them away from the cultivated varieties (those you like to eat).

Sages (*Salvia spp.*)—Whoa, in a class by themselves. Excellent group, mostly perennials, which are usually left alone by the evil bunniculas. Star performers include *Salvia clevelandii* and its cultivars, most with flowers in shades of blue. Another goodie, *S. leucophylla*, has purple flowers. Tip: Cut back salvias after bloom so they don't get rangy.

Wooley blue curls (*Trichostema lanatum*)—Excellent evergreen shrub with needlelike leaves and psychedelic fuzzy, curly, blue flowers.

It's good to know that some of these plants also attract tiny insects, another staple on the hummingbird diet. Speaking of insects—do not spray insecticides or pesticides on plants visited by hummingbirds; in fact, try to make your garden toxin-free. What would you rather see: a plant with a few holes in some leaves or a deceased hummingbird?

Incidentally, a healthy plant whose growth requirements have been met has a greater natural ability to fight off pests; consider the plant's cultural needs such as soil type, sun or shade exposure, etc. (for sources of such info, keep reading). Also encourage beneficial insects to keep plants healthy. Learn to accept a few funky-looking leaves now and then. The only plants with perfect leaves are those made of effluvia-like plastic.

The Return of the Native

Fall marks the return of the California native planting season. One rule of thumb says you should wait until the first few autumn rains before planting natives (that is, if we get rain—but we can always hope, can't we?). If you didn't get to the native plant sale held in mid-October by the California Native Plant Society or the October 28 plant sale held by the Back Country Land Trust (www.bclt.org), try the November 4 sale held by the Lake Hodges Native Plant Club (www.lhnpc.org). In addition, for those of us who tend to be tardy, Coastal Sage Gardening (619-223-5229) in San Diego usually holds a native plant sale in January. Some local nurseries are excellent sources for native plants and information; for example, talk to John Allen of Rancho Jojoba Plant Nursery in Lakeside (619-504-2017). Others include Las Pilitas Nursery in Escondido and Tree of Life Nursery in San Juan Capistrano.

Let the Sunshine In

As your garden attracts more hummers, you'll probably want to know more about the little buzzers, such as what species you can expect to see (FYI, the three most common types in San Diego are the Anna's, Costa's, and Black-chinned). If so, who you gonna call?

For answers to hummingbird questions and general bird info, one excellent place to call is our local chapter of the Audubon Society, the San Diego Audubon Society, 619-682-7200. You can also visit their website at www.sandiegoaudubon.org. And, just for fun, why not attend one of their meetings and/or outings? They'll welcome you with outstretched wings.

All it takes to jazz up the garden are some blooming native plants and a sparkly hummingbird or two. That way, your garden can shine, even without much sun.

Pat Pawlowski is a San Diego-based gardener and a regular contributor to California Garden.

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Fall 2006

It's easy to register! Just fill out this form and mail it to San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1622. Payment for classes must be included.

❑ November 7, 2006

Ninety-Nine Cent Store Floral Design—Visit a 99-cent store and purchase an article, such as a vase, a dish, a cloth, a "scrubby," or a toy for making a flower arrangement. Bring flowers, your 99-cent article, clippers, and lunch.

Teacher: Velma West, retired flower judge, award-winning floral designer, and teacher. Cost: $20

❑ November 14, 2006

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❑ November 21, 2006

Pretty Enough to Eat—Just in time for Thanksgiving, make a centerpiece for the dining table or buffet. Fruits, flowers, candles, and veggies assembled ready to insert in a vase. All materials supplied.

Teacher: Velma West, retired flower judge, award-winning floral designer, and teacher.

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REVIEWS

Did you know? All the books reviewed in *California Garden* are in the San Diego Floral Association library!

Crazy About Cacti and Succulents

EDITED BY RAY ROGERS

BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN

$9.95; 119 pages; paperback

This little jewel of a volume, one in the series from the *Brooklyn Botanic Garden All-Region Guides*, will have you knowing and growing succulents very soon. Not sure just how to define cacti and succulents? This volume defines them in this way: "The broad term *succulent* describes plants from many plant families that store water, against times of drought, in specialized tissues, whether in fleshy leaves, stems, or a stem root structure known as a caudex. All cacti are succulents."

When does one become a "succulentophile"—passionate for those fleshy or spiny and often bizarre looking succulents? Possibly, succulentophile status for you will begin in the pages of this little book.

The editor presents offerings by people who are knowledgeable in cacti and succulent conservation, hardy cacti, hardy succulents, medicinal cacti and succulents, and *Ceropegias*. Each is given its own section, not just a mention.

Whether you are a container gardener, a gardener with traditional perennial borders, or a xeriscape gardener with informal perennial borders, modified for a dry western landscape, you will be enticed to grow cacti and other succulents in your garden.

The book tells the reader that, when starting a collection, the most important thing is to know which kinds of growing conditions you can provide to these plants. Then, choose plants that will thrive in those identified environments.

Succulent lovers owe an enormous debt to the dozens of nurseries in the American southwest that have made choice succulents cheaply available from seed and eliminated the need to collect rare plants in nature. A section of the book covers propagation from seeds, cuttings, offsets, divisions, and grafting.

Do you like the bonsai succulents you see at flower shows and in picture books? There is a section for easy bonsai for beginners and what to look for when buying plants. The book gives directions for making growing media, selecting containers and mulches, light, and temperatures for your plant and watering instructions. Repotting, root pruning, and wiring are discussed.

What is a show plant anyway? The book contains an informative section on how to groom your cacti and other succulents for exhibition also.

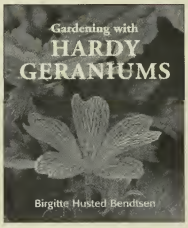
Nursery and seed sources are listed at the end of the book with web addresses in this very current book. There is even one listed here in San Diego County. Maybe I'll see you shopping one day very soon.—Suzie Heap

Gardening with Hardy Geraniums

BY BIRGITTE HUSTED BENDTSEN

TIMBER PRESS

$29.95; 144 pages; hardcover



Birgitte Husted Bendtsen lives and gardens in West Jutland, Denmark. She is a grower and a passionate geranium enthusiast. She is also a photographer. She has written her hardy geranium dream book. There are over 400 hardy geraniums described in this book, which has over 450 color photographs in its 144 pages spotlighting individual characteristics that allow readers to compare and contrast color, flower shapes, and markings.

Readers will find here a rich source of information and beauty as they share with the author her enthusiasm for these plants with their interesting foliage and delightful flowers.

Spending some lazy warm summer days with Birgitte Husted Bendsten will inspire you to check out hardy geranium species and hybrids when you go nursery shopping.—Suzie Heap

The Life Cycles of Butterflies

BY JUDY BURRIS & WAYNE RICHARDS

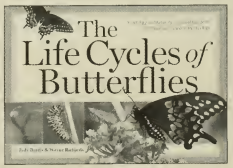
STOREY PUBLISHING

$16.95; 160 pages; paperback

There are some definite pros and cons about this book.

The pros: The book contains some of the best photos of butterfly eggs that this reviewer has ever seen. Zowie! The photos of each stage of each butterfly's life cycle are very helpful in species identification. Also, the prose is clear and informative; the authors present their butterfly facts in a friendly, lively, amusing manner.

After admiring the photos and reading this volume, a butterfly enthusiast living in San Diego County might decide to get another book about these insects, a book that would be more localized.



Which brings us to the cons: About half of the 23 species of butterflies covered in this book do not normally occur in Southern California. Information about nonnative butterflies would do San

Diego butterfly fans little good, since they could never expect to see these varieties locally or attract them to their yards.

The last con does not have anything to do with the information contained in the book; it concerns the shape. Simply put, the book is uncomfortable to hold for any length of time, at least for this reader. The pages are wider than they are high, and are somewhat floppy when the book is open. Perhaps the photos of the progressive stages in the life cycle were thought to necessitate this style.—Pat Pawlowski

Native Treasures: Gardening with the Plants of California

by M. Nevin Smith

University of California Press

$24.95; 288 pages; paperback

Gardeners with only a passing interest in native plants may find their way to a lifelong passion after reading this book. As a boy, the author roamed Sonoma county, intrigued by the wild flowers whose seeds he collected. He grew up to recognize that native plants were his connection to the natural world.

He offers much good, sound general gardening information, but the portions relating specifically to native plants are what set this book apart. Most significant is the emphasis on propagation, reflecting the author's assumption that once native plants have been established, any gardener would naturally want more. He maintains that native plants are not difficult to propagate if one has the proper materials and information, so why buy when you can grow your own? Whether by seeds or by cuttings, all is revealed, not only in an early chapter, but in each of the following sections devoted to his favorite native trees, shrubs, sub-shrubs, and herbaceous perennials. No detail or possible pitfall is overlooked, but the simplicity of the descriptions makes it all seem easy and exciting.

The author regards native plant propagation as a roundabout way to spread nature's bounty, but he is not a purist and welcomes mixing compatible exotics with natives.

Color photos capture the full beauty of the subject, in both close-up and landscape views. A bibliography and list of botanical gardens plus resources for plants and seeds, including Internet sites, are at the back of the book.—Marge Howard-Jones

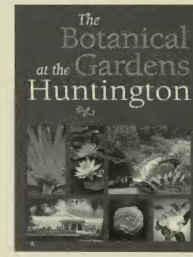
Cultivating Words

by Paula Panich

Tryphon Press

$21.95; 130 pages; paperback

This book by Paula Panich, who teaches garden writing at the New York Botanical Garden and at the Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, offers encouragement and "how to" advice for gardeners and plant lovers who desire to share their experiences. It is appropriate for hobbyists who have been asked to write an article or column for publication, but also for horticultural professionals or garden designers who want to promote their businesses, or even for freelance authors hoping to advance to a professional level. The basic structures of "how to" and feature articles are clearly defined, including such details as when to use bulleted points and informative sidebars. Several chapters are devoted to "getting the English teacher off one's shoulder" in order to make articles passionate, engaging, and personal, rather than dry and sterile. Excellent writing examples are presented, along with tips (journaling, editing/revision, "mapping" articles one admires) on becoming a better garden writer. Sponsored by the Garden Writers' Association, Paula Panich taught a one-day writing seminar at Quail Gardens on October 6, 2006.—Karin Kratz



The Botanical Gardens at the Huntington, 2nd Edition

by the Huntington Botanical Staff

Huntington Library Press

$24.95; 192 pages; paperback

What's new at the Huntington complex since the first edition of this book was issued in 1996? Two features have been added: the Helen and Peter Bing Children's Garden and the Rose Hills Foundation Conservatory, which is now an interactive science education exhibit. This edition also has the added enhancements of a map of the Huntington grounds and a "Message from the President," which touts the new additions and reiterates why the Huntington has so long been an icon of Southern California cultural life.

The readers of *California Garden* will probably be most interested in the multitude of high-quality photographs, most in color, of the grounds and gardens. The main difference between the 1996 and 2006 editions of this book are these photographs and the most obvious reason for gardeners to purchase this book.

Photography buffs are the other obvious audience for this book; there are some photographic credits, such as Advanced Digital Maps Incorporated, which were impossible for the older book.

The format of this book is unchanged from the first edition. With the exception of the insertion of some inevitable statistical changes, such as the library's expansion from 600,000 to 800,000 books and from three million to six million manuscripts, the text written by Walter Houk in 1996 is largely unchanged.

There are also some small changes in the textual placement of some of the photographs of plants and trees. For instance, the pink silk tree photo was in the "Landmark Trees" portion of the older book and is now in the "Entrance and Garden Parking Lots" chapter.

There is also now a jacaranda tree in the "Calendar of Color" section. The appendix in the old edition, "For Further Reading," has been omitted from the newer.

However these very slight differences do not detract from the overall high quality of this new edition and should not discourage anyone who wants to replace their older edition with this newer one. For those who do not have the older edition and want to know nearly everything there is publicly to know about the Huntington, this is a recommended purchase.—Jean Hughes

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

Garden Center and Library – Founded in 1907
1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1622
619-232-5762 Located in Casa del Prado, Room 105, Balboa Park
Under the sponsorship of the Park & Recreation Department, City of San Diego, California

GENERAL MEETINGS

2007
February 20
April 17
June 19
October 16
Casa del Prado, Room 101
Balboa Park, San Diego

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AFFILIATES:

CHIRP FOR GARDEN WILDLIFE, INC.
Exec. Director: Maureen Austin 619-445-8352
P. O. Box 532
Alpine, CA 91903-0532

CITY BEAUTIFUL OF SAN DIEGO
Pres: Tenaya Becker 760-295-8447
Box 9424
San Diego, CA 92169-0424

FRIENDS OF THE HORTENSE MILLER GARDEN
Information: 949-499-5518
P. O. Box 742
Laguna Beach CA 92652-0742
Email: marshab@gte.net

JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN BALBOA PARK
Contact: Luanne Lao 619-232-2721
2125 Park Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92101-4792

PALOMAR DISTRICT CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
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30861 Saddleback Rd.
Valley Center, CA 92082-3848

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P. O. Box 230005
Encinitas, CA 92023-0005

SAN DIEGO BOTANICAL GARDEN FOUNDATION
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2125 Park Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92101-4792

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Exec. Dir: Alexander Chuang 619-338-9888
404 Third Ave.
San Diego, CA 92101-6803

SAN DIEGO ZOO
Horticulture Dept. 619-231-1515 Ext. 4298
P. O. Box 120551
San Diego, CA 92112-0551

SOUTHWESTERN JUDGES COUNCIL
Chair: Nancy Abernethy 760-742-1842
P. O. Box 876
Pauma Valley, CA 92061-0876
1st Wed - 10:30 am
Sep., Nov., Jan., Mar., May, North County Fair, Escondido, Community Room

TAKA SUMI-E SOCIETY
Contact: Takashi Ijichi 619-255-2501
1455 49th St.
San Diego, CA 92102-2625
1st Sun - 9:00-11:00 a.m., Casa del Prado
Feb., Mar., Apr., Sep., Oct., Nov.

WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN
Librarian: Joan Endres 619-660-0614
12122 Cuyamaca College Dr. W
El Cajon, CA 92019-4317

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATES:

CLASSIC GARDENS
P. O. Box 2711 858-459-0316
La Jolla, CA 92038-2711

MASTER LANDSCAPE SERVICES, INC.
3089C Clairemont Drive #296 619-296-9687
San Diego, CA 92117-6802

SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR, PAUL ECKE JR. FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW
Attn: Lucy Warren 858-792-4273
2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd.
Del Mar, CA 92014-2216
Email: flowershow@sdfair.com

SAN DIEGO COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY
Vickie V. Driver 858-522-6760
4677 Overland Ave.
San Diego, CA 92123-1233
Email: vdriver@sdcwa.org

THE SAN DIEGO HERB CLUB
Pres.: Judy Dunning/Cindi Lohry 619-579-0222
200 Highline Trail
El Cajon, CA 92021-4082

JIM STELLUTI CONSULTING LANDSCAPE ARTIST
1928 Madison Ave. 619-298-7641
San Diego, CA 92116-2722

GARDEN CLUBS:

ALPINE GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Carlette Anderson 619-445-5716
2451 Night Star Ct.
Alpine, CA 91901-1449
1st Fri - 10:00 am, Homes of Members

BERNARDO GARDENERS
Pres: Veleta Camozzi 858-487-0771
17685 Cumana Terrace
San Diego, CA 92128-1813
3rd Thu - 1:30 pm, Rancho Bernardo Library

BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Lynne Batchelor 858-451-6764
16048 Caminito Aire Puro
San Diego, CA 92128-3557
2nd Wed - 9:30 a.m., Bonita Public Library

BRIDGE AND BAY GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Claudette Harshberger 619-435-6042
1217 Alameda Blvd.
Coronado, CA 92118-2710
4th Mon - 9:30 a.m., Winn Room, Coronado Public Library

CHULA VISTA GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Betsy Cory 619-656-8669
P.O. Box 57
Chula Vista, CA 91912-1016
3rd Thu - 11:45 a.m., Norman Park Senior Center

CORONADO FLORAL ASSOCIATION
Pres: Nancy Griffith 619-435-8079
P. O. Box 180188
Coronado, CA 92118-0188

CROWN GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Jeanne Bowers
P.O. Box 180476
Coronado, CA 92178-0476
4th Thu - 9:30 a.m., Coronado Library

DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Marcia Townsend 760-749-4976
P. O. Box 123
Valley Center, CA 92082-0123
2nd Tue - 12:30 p.m., Valley Center Com. Hall

FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Judy Farnan 760-451-0792
P. O. Box 1702
Fallbrook, CA 92088-1702
3rd Wed - 7:00 p.m., FPUD Bldg. on Mission Rd.
Last Thu - 9:30 a.m., Fallbrook Presbyterian Church on Stage Coach

FLEURS DE LEAGUE GARDEN CLUB
Chair: Mrs. Neil Powers 858-829-7944
16049 Vista de Golf
San Diego, CA 92091-4340
2nd Mon - 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members

LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Ann Massey 858-292-9414
P. O. Box 2713
La Jolla, CA 92038-2713
3rd Tue - 1:30 p.m., L.J.Lutheran Church

LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB
Pres: Vernon Bluhm 760-745-1219
710 W. 13th Ave. G118
Escondido, CA 92025
Email: vbluhm@cox.net
4th Mon - 2:00 p.m. - Rancho Bernardo Library, 2nd floor

LAS JARDINERAS
Pres: Julie Warren 619-298-7043
3919 Portola Place
San Diego, CA 92103-2705
3rd Mon - 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members

MIRACOSTA HORT. CLUB OF OCEANSIDE
Co-Presidents:
Felicia Moscinski 760-726-4047
809 Olive Ave., #40
Vista, CA 92083-3373
Don Nelson 760-630-3580
952 Park Hill Drive
Escondido, CA 92025-4853
Email: donnelson12sbcglobal.net
3rd Sat - 12:45 p.m., MiraCosta Community College, Student Center Bldg. (upstairs)
Meetings Sep through Jun ONLY

MISSION HILLS GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Ellen Preston 619-255-2110
1825 Sheridan Ave. cell: 619-549-2765
San Diego, CA 92103-1635
4th Wed - 6:30 p.m., Mission Hills United Church of Christ at 4070 Jackdaw St.

POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Nancy Hurlburt 619-223-3315
3115 Owen St.
San Diego, CA 92106-3403
2nd Wed - 10:00 a.m., Masonic Center
1711 Sunset Cliffs Blvd.
Guests welcome

POWAY VALLEY GARDEN CLUB
President: Gail Matson 858-486-8969
P. O. Box 27
Poway, CA 92074-0027
2nd Wed - 9:00 a.m., Lake Poway Pavilion

RAMONA GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Patricia Frederick 760-788-8035
1668 Main St., Suite E
Ramona, CA 92065
2nd Wed - 12:00 noon Ramona Public Library

RANCHO SANTA FE GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Donna Ferrier 858-756-1554
P. O. Box 483
Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067-0483

SAN CARLOS GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Joyce McManus 619-449-3230
9943 Beck Dr.
Santee, CA 92071-4509
4th Tue - 9:30 a.m., Homes of Members

SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
Pres: Susi Torre-Bueno 760-730-3268
P. O. Box 231869
Encinitas, CA 92023-1869
2nd Mon - 6:30 pm, except June
Surfside Race Place
Del Mar Fairgrounds, Jimmy Durante Blvd.

SAN DIEGUITO GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Rita Koczela 760-804-7366
7585 Navigator Cir.
Carlsbad, CA 92011-5405
4th Wed - 9:30 a.m., Quail Bot. Gardens

VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB OF LA JOLLA
Pres: Connie Brown 858-453-5363
6327 Benhurst Ct.
San Diego, CA 92122-3021
4th Thu - 10:00 a.m., Torrey Pines Christian Church, LJ

VISTA GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Karen England 760-214-3685
P. O. Box 44
Vista, CA 92085-0044
1st Fri - 12:00 noon, Vista Senior Center

IKEBANA SCHOOLS:

ICHIYO SCHOOL OF IKEBANA
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER
Pres: Haruko Crawford 619-660-2046
10411 San Carlos Dr.
Spring Valley, CA 91978-1034

IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER 119
Pres: Janet Judge 858-759-2477
P.O. Box 2248
Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067-2248
4th Wed - 10:00 a.m., Casa del Prado

IKENOBO CHAPTER OF SAN DIEGO
Pres: Mrs. Charles Oehler 858-278-5689
2822 Walker Dr.
San Diego, CA 92123-3056

OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA
LA JOLLA CHAPTER
P. O. Box 500765 858-672-7850
San Diego, CA 92150-0765
2nd Tues - 10:00 a.m., La Jolla Library

OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER
Pres: Akiko Bourland 858-273-5899
2936 Havasupai Ave.
San Diego, CA 92117-1641

SOGETSU SCHOOL OF IKEBANA
SAN DIEGO BRANCH
Director: Hiroko Szechinski 858-571-6137
10830 Montego Dr.
San Diego, CA 92124-1421

SOGETSU SCHOOL OF IKEBANA
Master Instructor: Sumiko Lahey 619-429-6198
2829 Flax Dr.
San Diego, CA 92154-2160

PLANT SOCIETIES:

AFRICAN VIOLET

CARLSBAD AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
Pres: Patty Regan 760-295-0484
2000 S. Melrose Dr. #119
Vista, CA 92081
4th Mon - 10:30 a.m. - Vista Library, 700 Eucalyptus Ave.

BEGONIA

ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH
AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
Pres: Doris Smith 619-222-1294
4505 Long Branch Ave.
San Diego CA 92107-2333
2nd Tue - 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members

MABEL CORWIN BRANCH
AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
Pres: Dean Turney 760-942-1919
467 Fulvia
Encinitas, CA 92024-2146
2nd Sun - 1:30 p.m., except May & Aug. Quail Gardens

MARGARET LEE BRANCH
AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
Pres: Michael Ludwig 619-262-7535
6040 Upland St.
San Diego CA 92114-1933
Last Sat - 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members

BONSAI

HON NON BO ASSOCIATION
Pres: Brenda Storey 858-689-0957
9976 Dauntless St.
San Diego, CA 92126-5514
1st Sun. every other month (begin Feb.)
10:30 a.m., Casa del Prado

SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB, INC.
Information: 619-699-8776
P. O. Box 40037
San Diego CA 92164-0037
2nd Sun. - 10:30 a.m., Casa del Prado, Rm. 101
Beginning & intermediate classes at 9:00 am before meeting

CLUB AND PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATES (*continued*)

BROMELIAD

BROMELIAD STUDY GROUP OF BALBOA PARK
Pres: Joann Dossett 619-299-4115
2871 Brant St.
San Diego, CA 92103-6119
2nd Tue. - 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado

SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY
Pres: Robert Vitacco 619-469-3539 (weekends only)
www.bsi.org/webpages/san_diego.html
P. O. Box 83996
San Diego, CA 92138-3966
2nd Sat., 10:00 a.m., Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

CACTUS & SUCCULENT

PALOMAR CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
P. O. Box 840
Escondido, CA 92033
4th Sat - 12:15 p.m., Joslyn Sr. Ctr., Escondido

SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
Pres: Mark Fryer 619-795-1020
P. O. Box 33181
San Diego, CA 92163-3181
2nd Sat - 1:00 p.m., Casa del Prado

CAMELLIA

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY
Pres: E. C. (Gene) Snooks 858-454-6659
6114 La Jolla Blvd.
La Jolla, CA 92037-6702
3rd Wed. - 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado
Meetings Nov. through Apr. ONLY

DAHLIA

SAN DIEGO COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY
Pres: David J. Tooley 858-672-2593
11375 Nawa Way
San Diego, CA 92129-1116
Email: djsj21643@aol.com
4th Tue. - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado

DAYLILY (HEMEROCALLIS)

SOUTHWEST HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY
Contact: Betsy Hamblin 858-483-5584
851 Opal St.
San Diego, CA 92109-1780
1st Sat. - 10:00 a.m., Sep. through May
Quail Gardens

EPIPHYLLUM

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY
Pres: Phil Peck 619-491-9495
P. O. Box 126127
San Diego, CA 92112-6127
Website: www.epiphyllum.com
2nd Wed. - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado

FERN

SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY
Pres: Sherry Worthen 858-278-2017
3141 Cabrillo Mesa Dr.
San Diego, CA 92123-2945
3rd Thu. - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado

FRUIT

CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS
Chair: David Silverstein
4722 Coronado Ave.
San Diego, CA 92107-3543
4th Thu. - 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado
Nov. & Dec. ONLY, 3rd Thu.

GERANIUM

SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY
Pres: Jim Budlove 619-287-6299
6404 Zena Dr.
San Diego, CA 92115-7026
2nd Tue. - 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado

HERB

THE SAN DIEGO HERB CLUB
Copresidents: Judy Dunning and Cindi Lohry
619-579-0222
Meetings on the 1st Wed. of every month at 7:00 p.m., Balboa Park
Casa del Prado, Room 101

IRIS

SAN DIEGO/IMPERIAL COUNTIES IRIS SOCIETY
Pres: Ted Howse 619-479-3887
3915 Vista San Miguel, Bonita, CA 91902-2345
2nd Sun. - 1:00 p.m.
Call for newsletter and location

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY
Pres: Eileen Fiumara 818-986-4188
4512 Sunnyslope Ave.
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423-3119
1st Thu. - 7:30 p.m. - Canoga Park Women's Club
7401 Jordan, Canoga Park

NATIVE PLANTS

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER 619-685-7321
P. O. Box 121390
San Diego, CA 92112-1390
3rd Tue - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado

LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB
Pres: Yolanda Fleet 760-745-1219
3045 Felicita Rd.
Escondido, CA 92029-6725
4th Mon. - 2:00 p.m. - Rancho Bernardo Library, 2nd floor

ORCHID

SAN DIEGO COUNTY CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY
A BRANCH OF THE CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.
Pres: Loren Ellsworth 858-748-8355
14730 Dash Way
Poway, CA 92064-2914
3rd Wed. - 7:00 p.m., Carlsbad Women's Club

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY
Pres: Genie Hammond 619-426-6831
P. O. Box 161020
San Diego, CA 92176-1020
1st Tue. - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado

ORGANIC

BONITA ORGANIC GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Ron Nordfelt 619-475-8086
935 Rawhide Ct.
Bonita, CA 91902-2422
4th Tue. - 7:00 p.m., Bonita Valley Baptist Church at 4701 Sweetwater Rd. Meeting in back. EXCEPT Aug. & Dec.

PLUMERIA

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLUMERIA SOCIETY
Pres: Joy Herzog 619-443-4795
P. O. Box 20553
El Cajon, CA 92021-0940
4th Sun. - 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m., Feb. through Oct.
Casa del Prado, Room 102
Email: c.herzog@att.net

ROSE

EAST COUNTY ROSE SOCIETY
Pres: Karen Mannino 619-401-9625
11977 Paseo Fuerte
El Cajon, CA 92020-8366
Website: www.eastcountyrosesociety.com
1st Sun - 2:00 p.m., except July & Aug.
Gardens of Members

SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY
Pres: Ruth Tiffany 619-462-5753
6705 Maury Dr.
San Diego, CA 92119-2020
www.sdrosesociety.org
3rd Mon. - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado
EXCEPT Jan. & Feb. - 4th Mon.
No meetings July & Aug.

TREES

PEOPLE FOR TREES
Contact: Pat Stevenson 619-222-TREE
P. O. Box 120505 FAX 619-223-TREE
San Diego, CA 92112-0505
Email: adoglover1@juno.com
4th Tue. - 6:30 p.m., 743 Imperial Ave.

WATER GARDEN

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER GARDEN SOCIETY
Pres: Ed Simpson 760-436-3704
1302 Avocado Rd.
Oceanside, CA 92054-5702
3rd Sun - Apr. through Oct.
Website: groups.yahoo.com/group/sdwatergarden
Email: dc@pondplants.com
Call for meeting information.

AFFILIATES:

Please help us keep your information up-to-date. Send changes to Affiliates Editor, California Garden, 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1622. Call 619-232-5762

Email: membership@sdfloral.org

Deadline for November/December issue: September 20, 2006

Beginning in 2007, each affiliate group is entitled to a business-card-sized ad at half price. We can accept your designed ad (tiff or jpeg files preferred) or we can design one for you (using copy and images provided by you). Business-card-sized ads measure 3.5 inches wide by 2.25 inches high.

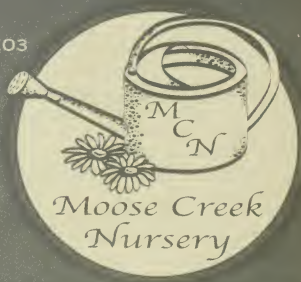
Christmas is coming and we are more than ready. Mission Hills Nursery and Moose Creek Nursery have all your winter holiday needs. Christmas trees, decorations, poinsettias, lights, stands, mistletoe, gifts garland, bows, live trees and much more. We offer delivery and pick up, so at the end of the year we can take out your tree and recycle it for you. If you are too busy this holiday season arrange for our excellent staff to pick out, deliver and pick up your tree. We make this busy time of year as easy as possible for you.

Happy Holidays and remember,
Life's a garden dig it!

MISSION HILLS NURSERY
1525 FT. STOCKTON DR. SAN DIEGO 92103
(619) 295-2808

MOOSE CREEK NURSERY
2442 ALPINE BLVD. ALPINE 91903
(619) 445-6020

WWW.MISSIONHILLSNURSERY.COM



CALIFORNIA GARDEN (USPS 0084-020)
San Diego Floral Association, Inc.
1650 El Prado #105
San Diego, CA 92101-1622

PERIODICALS POSTAGE